

priority. We are working to use available resources to educate our citizens about how to prevent child abductions. We are also creating new lines of communication between authorities and the public to help find and safely return missing children to their families. We will continue to vigorously prosecute and severely punish those who would harm our children.

To further these efforts, in August 2002, my Administration released a new guidebook, "Personal Safety for Children: A Guide for Parents" to teach parents steps to improve their children's safety. Since then, copies have been distributed to public and private schools and public libraries throughout the country, in both English and Spanish. In October 2002, I convened the first White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children to promote public awareness of the issues and to generate recommendations and best practices from experts. And in December 2002, I signed legislation creating the Dot Kids domain, a child-friendly zone on the Internet. The sites on this domain are monitored for content and safety, offering parents peace of mind knowing that their children can learn in a safe and healthy environment.

Last month I signed the PROTECT Act, an important law that provides valuable new ways to deter, investigate, prosecute, and punish crimes against America's children. The PROTECT Act also builds on my Administration's ongoing efforts to expand and improve the AMBER Alert program, which has become an increasingly important tool to help rescue kidnapped children by quickly getting key information about the missing child and the suspect to the public. This law formally establishes the Federal Government's role in the AMBER Alert system and equips the Department of Justice to help State and local officials develop, enhance, and coordinate AMBER plans across America.

Our Nation has come to know the names and faces of far too many children because they have been the victims of acts of cruelty and violence. These crimes break our hearts and stir our anger. Our Nation shares the joy of the parents who are reunited with their children, and prays with those who are still

hoping and waiting. We grieve with every family that has suffered the loss of or injury to a child. We will continue the fight against the threats that our children face.

**Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2003, as National Missing Children's Day. I call upon Americans to join me in commemorating this observance by celebrating those children who have been returned to their loved ones, remembering those young people who are missing, and continuing to work together on every front to protect our children from those who would seek to harm them.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-seventh.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., May 28, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on May 29.

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## Digest of Other White House Announcements

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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### **May 17**

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had an intelligence briefing.

### **May 18**

During the day, the President returned to Washington, DC.

### **May 19**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the

National Security Council. Later, he met privately with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of the Philippines in the Oval Office. The two Presidents then held an expanded bilateral meeting in the Cabinet Room.

In the afternoon, the President met with Vice President Dick Cheney and Republican congressional leaders on the Truman Balcony to discuss proposed tax cut legislation.

During the day, the President met with Secretary of State Colin L. Powell.

### **May 20**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) of the Palestinian Authority to discuss peace efforts in the Middle East and the war on terror. He then had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

Later in the morning, the President met with President Rafael Hipolito Mejia Dominguez of the Dominican Republic in the Oval Office to discuss bilateral trade relations. President Bush then had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel to offer condolences concerning the recent terrorist bombings in Israel.

In the afternoon, the President met with the Homeland Security Council. Later, in recognition of Cuban Independence Day, he held a roundtable discussion in the Roosevelt Room with Cuban dissidents and former political prisoners.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan to Camp David, MD, on June 24 to discuss regional and international issues and bilateral relations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Penrose C. Albright to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Plans, Programs, and Budgets.

The President announced his intention to reappoint the following individuals as members of the Board of Directors of the Federal National Mortgage Association: Victor Henderson Ashe (community interests); Molly Hering Bordonaro (real estate); William Robert Harvey (mortgage lending); Manuel J. Justiz (public); and Taylor C. Segue III (homebuilding).

### **May 21**

In the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings. Later, he traveled to New London, CT.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

Later in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with Finance Minister Salam Fayyad of the Palestinian Authority to discuss peace efforts in the Middle East. Later, also in the Oval Office, he met with former Senator John Danforth, Special Envoy to the Sudan, and Secretary of State Colin L. Powell to discuss the peace process in the Sudan.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Poland, Russia, and France beginning May 30 to meet with foreign leaders and participate in the G-8 Summit in Evian-les-Bains, France.

The President announced his intention to appoint Louis Wade Sullivan (who, upon appointment, will be designated Chair) and Eugene Hale as members of the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

### **May 22**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with President Jacques Chirac of France to discuss the global economy, the continuing threat of international terrorism, and the upcoming G-8 Summit.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush greeted Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan. Later, the President took Prime Minister Koizumi on a tour of the Bush Ranch.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush had dinner with Prime Minister Koizumi.

### **May 23**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Luiz Inacio

Lula da Silva of Brazil to the White House on June 20.

The President declared a major disaster in Mississippi and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and high winds on May 5–8.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

#### ***Submitted May 22***

Brian F. Holean, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years, vice Mary Ellen Abrecht, retired.

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### **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

#### ***Released May 19***

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 289

Fact sheet: Announcements Related to the Visit of President Arroyo

#### ***Released May 20***

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit by President Musharraf of Pakistan

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's meeting with President Mejia Dominguez of the Dominican Republic

Fact sheet: National Policy on Ballistic Missile Defense Fact Sheet

#### ***Released May 21***

Transcript of a press gaggle by Assistant Press Secretary Sean McCormack and USA Freedom Corps Director John Bridgeland

Statement by the Press Secretary: President Bush To Travel to Poland, Russia, and France

Statement by the Press Secretary: Announcement of Intent To Negotiate a United States-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement

Statement by the Press Secretary on the appointment of Frances Fragos Townsend as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser for Combating Terrorism

Fact sheet: The Advance of Freedom and Hope

#### ***Released May 22***

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Announcement of nomination for Director of the Office of Management and Budget

Announcement of nomination for an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia

#### ***Released May 23***

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Ari Fleischer

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit of President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil

Statement by the Deputy Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Mississippi

Statement by Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice on the U.S.-Israel discussions on the Roadmap for Peace in the Middle East